



New Hampshire Veterans Home

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEW HAMPSHIRE VETERANS HOME JOINS “TWO TOWNS, ONE BOOK” DISCUSSION Veterans partner with Northfield and Tilton in discussion of the book “HOOT” by Carl Hiaasen

TILTON, NH – April 27, 2006 – New Hampshire Veterans Home (“NHVH”) book discussion group members are pleased to announce their participation with the towns of Tilton and Northfield in a community reading adventure. Members of the NHVH discussion group recently selected “HOOT”, by Carl Hiaasen as their book to read for the month of May.

Residents chose the book “HOOT” based on the recommendation of Mary Ahlgren, Librarian of the Hall Memorial Library in Northfield, who encouraged the veterans to join in on the discussion. Mary has been instrumental in assisting residents and staff with the book discussion group at NHVH. Ahlgren works in partnership with NHVH recreational therapy assistant Doris Nisbet and Hall Memorial Library volunteer Nell Grant to arrange inter-library loans for multiple copies of large print and books on tape as well as to lead the monthly discussion among NHVH residents, staff and volunteers. The group recently has read and discussed “The Greatest Generation” by Tom Brokaw and “The Da Vinci Code” by Dan Brown.

“We are thrilled to have the New Hampshire Veterans Home joining us in this effort, and we hope that it will inspire people of all ages in Northfield and Tilton to read “HOOT” and get involved in a discussion”, Ahlgren commented.

Copies of “HOOT” are available to purchase or to check out at your favorite library including Hall Memorial Library and the libraries at Winnisquam Regional High School, Southwick School and Winnisquam Regional Middle School. “Give a HOOT” buttons will also be made available to everyone who reads the book. Additional information about the program is available by calling the Hall Memorial Library at (603) 286-8971.

“Our residents already have a head start on the assignment and are looking forward to meeting new friends in upcoming book discussions and related events that are being planned over the next several weeks. Start reading and stay tuned for details,” said Doris Nisbet.



Photo Caption

Members of the New Hampshire Veterans Home (“NHVH”) Book Discussion Group receive their latest assignment - Hoot by Carl Hiaasen. New Hampshire Veterans Home residents are joining with the towns of Tilton and Northfield in the “Two Towns One Book” community wide book discussion. Pictured from left are (seated) Howard Bates, Elizabeth Nason, Charles Safford, Warren Wilson, Forrest Foley, Santiago Fernandez, Sam MacKenzie, Kenneth Flanders and (standing) Vernon Vermouth, Nell Grant, Mary Ahlgren, Doris Nisbet and Roy Berry.

About the New Hampshire Veterans Home

The New Hampshire Veterans Home (“NHVH”) was initially established in Tilton in 1890 as the Soldier’s Home for Civil War Veterans. Today, the modern facility in its countryside setting is home to men and women who have served their country and fellow New Hampshire citizens. The mission of NHVH is to provide high quality, professional long-term care services to the Granite State’s elderly and disabled veterans. NHVH is the only long-term care facility in the Granite State that is dedicated exclusively to veterans.

As a professional health care provider, NHVH offers a full range of services including residential, medical/dental and nursing care as well as physical/occupational therapy, recreation, and dietary and social services. Chapel services, exercise groups, arts and crafts, shopping trips, live entertainment and various community outings support residents’ quality of life. NHVH also offers inter-generational programs and animal-assisted recreational therapy.

Dedicated staff members work in partnership with volunteers from surrounding communities and numerous veteran service organizations to enrich our residents’ lives. NHVH recently opened the 100-person Life Enhancement Dementia Unit to serve the long-term care needs of veterans who suffer from Alzheimer’s and other related memory impairment disorders. The facility addition will enable NHVH to provide comprehensive long-term care services to a total of 250 Residents.

Additional information is available online at our website www.nh.gov/veterans

About “HOOT”

“In his first novel for a younger audience, Carl Hiaasen (*Basket Case, etc.*) plunges readers right into the middle of an ecological mystery, made up of endangered miniature owls, the Mother Paula's All-American Pancake House scheduled to be built over their burrows, and the owls' unlikely allies--three middle school kids determined to beat the screwed-up adult system. Hiaasen's tongue is firmly in cheek

as he successfully cuts his slapstick sense of humor down to kid-size. Sure to be a hoot, er, hit with middle school mystery fans. (Ages 10 to 15),” writes Jennifer Hubert on Amazon.com.

Additional information is available online at www.carlhiaasen.com

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